



*National Marine Fisheries Service, Northwest Region*  
7600 Sand Point Way NE, Seattle, WA 98115



## **PUBLIC NOTICE**

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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE  
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### **PACIFIC COAST GROUND FISH FISHERY CLOSURE OF OPEN ACCESS AND LIMITED ENTRY FIXED GEAR FISHING FOR MINOR NEARSHORE ROCKFISH SOUTH OF 40°10' N. LAT.**

**EFFECTIVE SEPTEMBER 1, 2002**

The National Marine Fisheries Service (NMFS) announces the closure of the nearshore rockfish south of 40°10' N. lat. at 0001 local time (l.t.) **September 1, 2002** for both the open access and limited entry fixed gear groundfish fisheries. This closure is necessary because catch projections show that the commercial harvest guideline has been reached. The best available information on August 23, 2002 indicates that the open access and limited entry commercial fisheries together have landed 139 mt through August 17, 2002, and that the 124 mt commercial harvest guideline has been exceeded. To reduce the likelihood of the fishery (commercial plus recreational) exceeding the minor nearshore rockfish OY and possibly the ABC for the area south of 40°10' N. lat., it is necessary to close the fishery to all limited entry and open access fisheries for the remainder of 2002. The limited entry trawl fishery for minor nearshore rockfish fishery south of 40°10' N. lat. has been closed since July 1, 2002.

An updated trip limit table, effective September 1, 2002, for the limited entry fixed gear fleet (Table 4) and the open access fishery (Table 5) is included in this notice.

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*For more information contact:* NMFS Northwest Region at 206-526-6140 or visit our website at <http://www.nwr.noaa.gov>, click on "Pacific Coast Groundfish;" NMFS Southwest Region at 562-980-4000; Washington Department of Fish and Wildlife at 360-249-4628; Oregon Department of Fish and Wildlife at 541-867-4741; or the California Department of Fish and Game at 707-441-5797 (Eureka), 510-581-7358 (Belmont), 562-342-7185 (Los Alamitos), 858-546-7167 (La Jolla).

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**To improve the quality of transmissions and conserve resources, we are able to send  
Pacific Coast Groundfish public notices via e-mail in addition to fax .**

**To be added to our e-mail list and removed from our fax list, please e-mail your request to  
[westcoastgroundfish@noaa.gov](mailto:westcoastgroundfish@noaa.gov)**

**Table 4. Trip Limits<sup>1/</sup> for Limited Entry Fixed Gear**

**Other Limits and Requirements Apply -- Read Sections IV. A. and B. NMFS Actions before using this table**

line	Species/groups	JAN-FEB	MAR-APR	MAY-JUN	JUL-AUG	SEP-OCT	NOV-DEC
**NOTE FOR FISHING SOUTH OF 40°10': ALL GROUND FISH FISHING IS <b>CLOSED</b> SEAWARD OF THE 20 FATHOM DEPTH CONTOUR, EXCEPT FOR SABLEFISH, THORNYHEADS, AND SLOPE ROCKFISH.							
1	Minor slope rockfish						
2	North	1,000 lb/ month		5,000 lb/ 2 months			2,000 lb/ 2 months
3	South						
4	40°10' - 36° N. lat.	25,000 lb/ 2 months		5,000 lb/ 2 months		1,800 lb/ 2 months	
5	South of 36° N. lat.	25,000 lb/ 2 months				15,000 lb/ 2 months	
6	Splitnose - South						
7	40°10' - 36° N. lat.	25,000 lb/ 2 months		5,000 lb/ 2 months		1,800 lb/ 2 months	
8	South of 36° N. lat.	25,000 lb/ 2 months				15,000 lb / 2 months	
9	Pacific ocean perch - North <sup>5/</sup>	2,000 lb/ month		4,000 lb/ month		4,000 lb/ 2 months	
10	Sablefish						
11	North of 36° N. lat. <sup>8/</sup>	300 lb/ day, or 1 landing per week of up to 800 lb, not to exceed 2,400 lb/ 2 months					
12	South of 36° N. lat.	350 lb/ day, or 1 landing per week of up to 1,050 lb		300 lb/ day, or 1 landing per week of up to 900 lb			
13	Longspine thornyhead	9,000 lb/ 2 months					
14	Shortspine thornyhead	2,000 lb/ 2 months					
15	Dover sole	5,000 lb/ month (all flatfish) North of 40°10': 5,000 lb/ month (all flatfish). South of 40°10': Shoreward of 20 ftn depth, 5,000 lb/month, otherwise CLOSED <sup>4/</sup>					
16	Arrowtooth flounder						
17	Petrale sole						
18	Rex sole						
19	All other flatfish <sup>2/</sup>						
20	Whiting <sup>3/</sup>	20,000 lb/ trip					
21	Shelf rockfish, including minor shelf rockfish, widow and yellowtail rockfish <sup>5/</sup>						
22	North	200 lb/ month					
23	South						
24	40°10' - 34°27' N. lat.	200 lb/ month	CLOSED <sup>4/</sup>	Shoreward of 20 ftn depth, 200 lb/ month, otherwise CLOSED <sup>4/</sup>	CLOSED <sup>4/</sup>		
25	South of 34°27' N. lat.	CLOSED <sup>4/</sup>	1,000 lb/ month		CLOSED <sup>4/</sup>		
26	Canary rockfish	CLOSED <sup>4/</sup>					
27	Yelloweye rockfish	CLOSED <sup>4/</sup>					
28	Cowcod	CLOSED <sup>4/</sup>					
29	Bocaccio - South <sup>5/</sup>						
30	40°10' - 34°27' N. lat.	200 lb/ month	CLOSED <sup>4/</sup>		CLOSED <sup>4/</sup>		
31	South of 34°27' N. lat.	CLOSED <sup>4/</sup>	200 lb/ month		CLOSED <sup>4/</sup>		
32	Chilipepper - South <sup>5/</sup>						
33	40°10' - 34°27' N. lat.	500 lb/ month	CLOSED <sup>4/</sup>		CLOSED <sup>4/</sup>		
34	South of 34°27' N. lat.	CLOSED <sup>4/</sup>	2,500 lb/ month		CLOSED <sup>4/</sup>		
35	Minor nearshore rockfish						
36	North	5,000 lb/ month, no more than 2,000 lb of which may be species other than black or blue rockfish <sup>6/</sup>		6,000 lb/ 2 months, no more than 3,000 lb of which may be species other than black or blue rockfish <sup>6/</sup>			
37	South						
38	40°10' - 34°27' N. lat.	1,600 lb/ 2 months	CLOSED <sup>4/</sup>	Shoreward of 20 ftn depth, 1,600 lb/ 2 months, otherwise CLOSED <sup>4/</sup>		CLOSED <sup>4/</sup>	
39	South of 34°27' N. lat.	CLOSED <sup>4/</sup>	2,000 lb/ 2 months		Shoreward of 20 ftn depth, 2,000 lb/ 2 months, otherwise CLOSED <sup>4/</sup>	CLOSED <sup>4/</sup>	
40	Lingcod <sup>7/</sup>						
41	North	CLOSED <sup>4/</sup>		400 lb/ month			CLOSED <sup>4/</sup>
42	South						
43	40°10' - 34°27' N. lat.	CLOSED <sup>4/</sup>		Shoreward of 20 ftn depth, 400 lb/ month, otherwise CLOSED <sup>4/</sup>	Shoreward of 20 ftn depth, 400 lb/ month, otherwise CLOSED <sup>4/</sup>		CLOSED <sup>4/</sup>
44	South of 34°27' N. lat.			400 lb/ month			

1/ Trip limits apply coastwide unless otherwise specified. "North" means 40°10' N. lat. to the U.S.-Canada border. "South" means 40°10' N. lat. to the U.S.-Mexico border. 40°10' N. lat. is about 20 nm south of Cape Mendocino, CA.

2/ "Other flatfish" means all flatfish at 50 CFR 660.302 except those in this Table 4 with species specific management measures, including trip limits.

3/ The whiting "per trip" limit in the Eureka area inside 100 fm is 10,000 lb/ trip throughout the year. Outside Eureka area, the 20,000 lb/ trip limit applies.

4/ Closed means that it is prohibited to take and retain, possess, or land the designated species in the time or area indicated. See IV.A.(7).

5/ Yellowtail rockfish and widow rockfish coastwide and bocaccio and chillipepper rockfishes in the north are included in the trip limits for shelf rockfish in the appropriate area. POP in the south and splitnose rockfish in the north are included in the trip limits for minor slope rockfish in the appropriate area.

6/ For black rockfish north of Cape Alava (48°09'30" N.lat.), and between Destruction Island (47°40'00" N.lat.) and Leadbetter Point (46°38'10" N.lat.), there is an additional limit of 100 lbs or 30 percent by weight of all fish on board, whichever is greater, per vessel, per fishing trip.

7/ The minimum size limit for lingcod is 24 inches (61 cm) total length.

8/ The minimum size requirement for sablefish is 22 inches (56 cm) total length between 40°10' N. lat. and 36° N. lat.

To convert pounds to kilograms, divide by 2.20462, the number of pounds in one kilogram.

**Table 5. Trip Limits<sup>1/</sup> for Open Access Gears**  
**Other Limits and Requirements Apply -- Read Sections IV. A. and C. NMFS Actions before using this table**  
**Exceptions for exempted gears at Section IV.C.**

line	Species/groups	JAN-FEB	MAR-APR	MAY-JUN	JUL-AUG	SEP-OCT	NOV-DEC
**NOTE FOR FISHING SOUTH OF 40°10': ALL GROUNDFISH FISHING IS <b>CLOSED</b> SEAWARD OF THE 20 FATHOM DEPTH CONTOUR, EXCEPT SABLEFISH AND SLOPE ROCKFISH.							
** NOTE: EFFECTIVE JULY 1, 2002, THERE IS NO RETENTION OF GROUNDFISH WITH EXEMPTED TRAWL GEAR.							
1	Minor slope rockfish						
2	North	Per trip, no more than 25% of weight of the sablefish landed					
3	South						
4	40°10' - 36° N. lat.	10,000 lb/ 2 months		5,000 lb/ 2 months		1,800 lb/ 2 months	
5	South of 36° N. lat.	10,000 lb/ 2 months					
6	Splitnose - South	200 lb/ month					
7	Pacific ocean perch - North <sup>4/</sup>	100 lb/ month					
8	Sablefish						
9	North of 36° N. lat. <sup>7/</sup>	300 lb/ day, or 1 landing per week of up to 800 lb, not to exceed 2,400 lb/ 2 months					
10	South of 36° N. lat.	350 lb/ day, or 1 landing per week of up to 1,050 lb		300 lb/ day, or 1 landing per week of up to 900 lb			
11	Thornyheads						
12	North of 34° 27' N. lat.	CLOSED <sup>3/</sup>					
13	South of 34° 27' N. lat.	50 lb/ day, no more than 2,000 lb/ 2 months					
14	Dover sole	3,000 lb/ month, no more than 300 lb of which may be species other than Pacific sanddabs					
15	Arrowtooth flounder						
16	Petrale sole						
17	Rex sole						
18	All other flatfish <sup>2/</sup>	South of 40°10': Shoreward of 20 fth, 3,000 lb/ month, no more than 300 lb of which may be species other than Pacific sanddabs, otherwise CLOSED <sup>3/</sup>					
19	Whiting	300 lb/ month					
20	Shelf rockfish, including minor shelf rockfish, widow and yellowtail rockfish <sup>4/</sup>						
21	North	200 lb/ month					
22	South						
23	40°10' - 34°27' N. lat.	200 lb/ month	CLOSED <sup>3/</sup>	Shoreward of 20 fth depth, 200 lb/ month, otherwise CLOSED <sup>3/</sup>	CLOSED <sup>3/</sup>		
24	South of 34°27' N. lat.	CLOSED <sup>3/</sup>	500 lb/ month				
25	Canary rockfish	CLOSED <sup>3/</sup>					
26	Yelloweye rockfish	CLOSED <sup>3/</sup>					
27	Cowcod	CLOSED <sup>3/</sup>					
28	Bocaccio - South <sup>4/</sup>						
29	40°10' - 34°27' N. lat.	200 lb/ month	CLOSED <sup>3/</sup>			CLOSED <sup>3/</sup>	
30	South of 34°27' N. lat.	CLOSED <sup>3/</sup>	200 lb/ month				
31	Chilipepper - South <sup>4/</sup>						
32	40°10' - 34°27' N. lat.	500 lb/ month	CLOSED <sup>3/</sup>			CLOSED <sup>3/</sup>	
33	South of 34°27' N. lat.	CLOSED <sup>3/</sup>	2,500 lb/ month				
34	Minor nearshore rockfish						
35	North	3,000 lb/ 2 months, no more than 1,200 lb of which may be species other than black or blue rockfish <sup>5/</sup>			6,000 lb/ 2 months, no more than 3,000 lb of which may be species other than black or blue rockfish <sup>5/</sup>		
36	South						
37	40°10' - 34°27' N. lat.	1,200 lb/ 2 months	CLOSED <sup>3/</sup>	Shoreward of 20 fth depth, 1,200 lb/ 2 months, otherwise CLOSED <sup>3/</sup>	Shoreward of 20 fth depth, 1,200 lb/ 2 months, otherwise CLOSED <sup>3/</sup>	CLOSED <sup>3/</sup>	
38	South of 34°27' N. lat.	CLOSED <sup>3/</sup>	1,200 lb/ 2 months				
39	Lingcod <sup>6/</sup>						
40	North	CLOSED <sup>3/</sup>			300 lb/ month		CLOSED <sup>3/</sup>
41	South						
42	40°10' - 34°27' N. lat.	CLOSED <sup>3/</sup>			Shoreward of 20 fth depth, 300 lb/ month, otherwise CLOSED <sup>3/</sup>	Shoreward of 20 fth depth, 300 lb/ month, otherwise CLOSED <sup>3/</sup>	CLOSED <sup>3/</sup>
43	South of 34°27' N. lat.				300 lb/ month		

1/ Trip limits apply coastwide unless otherwise specified. "North" means 40°10' N. lat. To the U.S.-Canada border. "South" means 40°10' N. lat. To the U.S.-Mexico border.

40°10' N. lat. is about 20 nm south of Cape Mendocino, CA.

2/ "Other flatfish" means all flatfish at 50 CFR 660.302 except those in this Table 5 with species specific management measures, including trip limits.

3/ Closed means that it is prohibited to take and retain, possess, or land the designated species in the time or area indicated. See IV.A.(7).

4/ Yellowtail rockfish in the south and bocaccio and chilipepper rockfishes in the north are included in the trip limits for minor shelf rockfish in the appropriate area. Pop in the south and splitnose rockfish in the north are included in the trip limits for minor slope rockfish in the appropriate area.

5/ For black rockfish north of Cape Alava (48°09'30" N.lat.), and between Destruction Island (47°40'00" N.lat.) and Leadbetter Point (46°38'10" N.lat.), there is an additional limit of 100 lbs or 30 percent by weight of all fish on board, whichever is greater, per vessel, per fishing trip.

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